

USS PONCE LPD-15







USS PONCE LPD-15



SYMBOLISM IN PONCE INSIGNIA

USS PONCE emblem is comprised of four major elements:

A Rampant Lion (coat of arms of Juan Ponce de Leon)-signifying the high-spiritedness of the Navy-Marine Corps team that will serve in her;

A trident, emblematic of U.S. Naval power and supremacy; Commission Pennants, visual symbol of U.S. Navy ships in commission;

An Anchor Chain, linking the ship's name and its designator symbols.

The royal purple Lion, which is the coat of arms of Juan Ponce de Leon, Spanish Explorer, Discoverer of Florida and First Governor of Puerto Rico, is a continuing reminder of our bond with the people of our namesake city.

MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

1974

1975

UNITED STATES SHIP PONCE LPD-15

"REFLECTIONS"

Reflections in the wake of an LPD are many. In the case of the United States Ship PONCE, she was commissioned in July 1971 and was the first warship to bear the name. During a short but active history, a constantly changing crew of 400 and their 16,320 ton home have successfully cast reflections in the Caribbean and Mediterranean Seas.

PONCE made her maiden voyage in 1971, deploying from Bremerton, Washington where she was built and commissioned. After several port visits along the West Coast PONCE transited the Panama Canal and proceeded to PONCE, Puerto Rico, the city for which she was named. From here, PONCE sailed north to her new home port, Norfolk, Virginia.

Today PONCE's reputation is a proud one. She is the newest LPD of her class and has won the Battle Efficiency "E" Award twice in her short history of amphibious operations. In only four years, PONCE has sailed to many ports of the world, having deployed to the Caribbean four times, the Mediterranean twice, and the North Atlantic once.

On the Morning of 25 September 1974, PONCE, with men and combat equipment of Second Battalion, Eighth Marines embarked, was underway for a repeat performance of her 1973 Mediterranean deployment with the Sixth Fleet. It is the reflections of this cruise to which this book is dedicated.



COMMANDING OFFICER

David Latta GLUNT is a native of Charleroi, Pennsylvania. He was graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1954, commenced flight training in August 1954 and received his wings in November 1955.

Captain GLUNT has served in VA 44 flying F2H-2, F9F-8 and A4 aircraft as an attack aviator and later as an attack instructor; in VA 34 flying A4 aircraft as Assistant Maintenance Officer; on the staff of Commander Replacement Air Group Four as Attack and Instrument Training Officer flying A4, A1, F9F-8, T28 and F8 aircraft; in VA 216 as Administrative, Maintenance, Operations and Executive Officer flying A4 aircraft; and in VA153 as Executive Officer flying A7 aircraft.

Captain GLUNT is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and served as a project pilot in the Ordnance Branch of the Weapons Systems Test Division at the Naval Air Test Center Patuxent River, Md. flying various attack and fighter aircraft. He served a second tour at NATC as Assistant Director and flight instructor at the Test Pilot School.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School with a M.S. in Management. He served on the staff of the Deputy Commander Operation Test and Evaluation Force, Pacific, as assistant Radar and ECM Officer and as assistant Air Warfare Officer. He also served in the Naval Material Command Headquarters, MAT 03, as Project Administrator of advanced and exploratory aircraft development projects.

Captain GLUNT served as Executive and Commanding Officer of Attack Squadron NINETY-THREE flying A7 aircraft during a combat deployment in the Seventh Fleet.

Prior to reporting as Commanding Officer of USS PONCE, he served as Operations Officer on the Staff of Commander Carrier Group FOUR.

Captain GLUNT's awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross [four awards], the Bronze Star, 26 Strike Flight Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" [two awards], the Navy Unit Commendation [USS HANCOCK - CVW 21, 1965-1966], the Meritorious Unit Commendation [USS RANGER - CVW 2, 1969-1970], the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, the Navy Expeditionary Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal with four stars.

Captain GLUNT is married to the former Ann Ely BUCHANAN of Charleroi, Pennsylvania. They reside with their son, David Lawrence, and daughter, Linda Ann, in Virginia Beach, Virginia.



EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Commander David W. Somers comes to PONCE from the USS NEWMAN K. PERRY [DD-867] where he served as Executive Officer from April of 1971.

Commander Somers graduated from the University of Maryland in 1955 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. He also has a Masters degree in International Affairs which he obtained from George Washington University in 1967.

His Naval career began with his being commissioned Ensign through Officer Candidate School in August of 1956. Commander Somers' tour assignments include serving as Executive Officer on the USS SPOONBILL [MSO-202], USS T.J. GARY [DER-326], and USS NEWMAN K. PERRY [DD-883]. Other assignments were as Boat Group Commander on the USS HENRICO [LPA-45], 2nd Division Officer on the USS ROBINSON [DD-562], and as Operations Officer on USS STRIBLING [DD-867].

Significant Naval schooling that Commander Somers has attended include the Naval Destroyer School in 1963 and the Naval War College in 1967.

Commander Somers was relieved by Commander Sherlock on 29 January, after serving aboard PONCE two years.



EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Commander Wilbur J. Sherlock comes to PONCE from the Headquarters Naval Telecommunications Command, Washington, D.C., where he served as Director for Frequency Management.

A native of West Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, Commander Sherlock holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering [Structural Design] from the University of Delaware and a Master of Science Degree in Management [Telecommunications] from the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California.

Commander Sherlock began his Naval career in July of 1958 receiving his commission as an Ensign upon graduation from Officer Candidate School. His sea tour assignments include Engineer Officer of the USS OUTAGAMIE COUNTY [LST 1073] and the USS RICHARD B. ANDERSON [DD 786], Squadron Engineer and Chief Staff Officer of Destroyer Squadron FIFTEEN and Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of the USS LOFBERG [DD 759]. During these sea tours he served in five combat deployments with the Seventh Fleet where extensive Naval Gunfire Support was provided for forces ashore in Vietnam as well as Operation Sea Dragon coastal surveillance missions. Shore assignments were Assistant Plant Group Commander at The Defense Atomic Support Agency's Lake Meade Base in Las Vegas, Nevada and Director Frequency Management at the Headquarters Naval Telecommunications Command.

Commander Sherlock is married to the former Alice Katherine Thonen of St. Petersburg, Florida. They reside with their daughters Martha, Vanessa and Gail and son Wilbur in Centreville, Virginia.

FAREWELL

SEPT. 25, 1974



SCHEDULE

25 SEPTEMBER 1974
4-10 OCTOBER 1974
12-15 OCTOBER 1974
20-23 OCTOBER 1974
26-30 OCTOBER 1974
31- OCTOBER - 6 NOVEMBER 1974
9-16 NOVEMBER 1974
16-23 NOVEMBER 1974
25-29 NOVEMBER 1974
30 NOVEMBER - 17 DECEMBER 1974
18-21 DECEMBER 1974
22 DECEMBER 1974 - 9 JANUARY 1975
10-19 JANUARY 1975
19-28 JANUARY 1975
29-30 JANUARY 1975
31 JANUARY - 7 FEBRUARY 1975
8-12 FEBRUARY 1975
14-20 FEBRUARY 1975
21-23 FEBRUARY 1975
24-28 FEBRUARY 1975
2-8 MARCH 1975
19 MARCH 1975
20 MARCH 1975

UNDERWAY
EXERCISE ALIEN GOLD
SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND
ROTA, SPAIN
PHIBLEX 4B-75, LOVO SANTO, CORSICA
MONACO
BRINDISI, ITALY
TRAINING ANCHORAGE, BRINDISI ITALY
TRAINING ANCHORAGE, SALERNO, ITALY
NAPLES, ITALY
PHIBLEX 6-75, CAPO TEULADA, SARDINIA
BARCELONA, SPAIN
SAN RAPHAEL, FRANCE
SURFACE LIFT
LIVORNO, ITALY
PHIBLEX 7-75, PIAN DI SPILLE, ITALY
TOULAN, FRANCE
VALENCIA, SPAIN
TRAINING ANCHORAGE, VALENCIA
PHIBLEX 8A-75, CARBONERAS, SPAIN
ROTA, SPAIN
MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

FINAL PREPARATIONS











AMPHIBIOUS



OPERATIONS





HARRIER

OPS



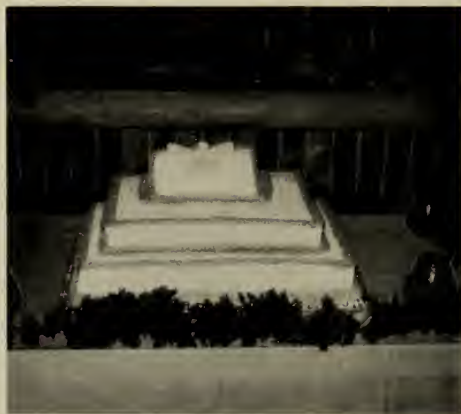


SOUTHAMPTON





NAVY BIRTHDAY



GENERAL VISITING

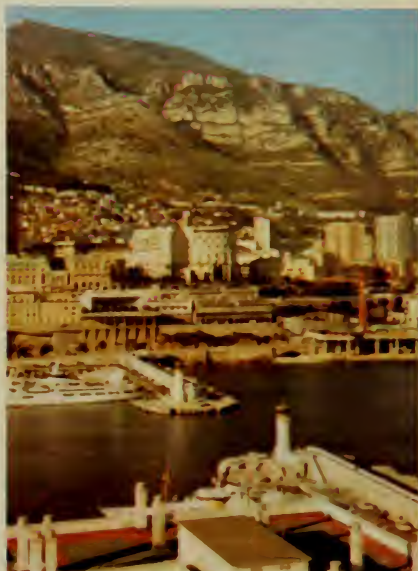
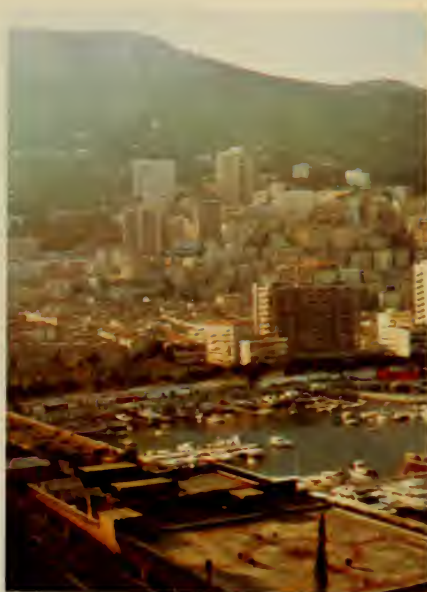






MONACO





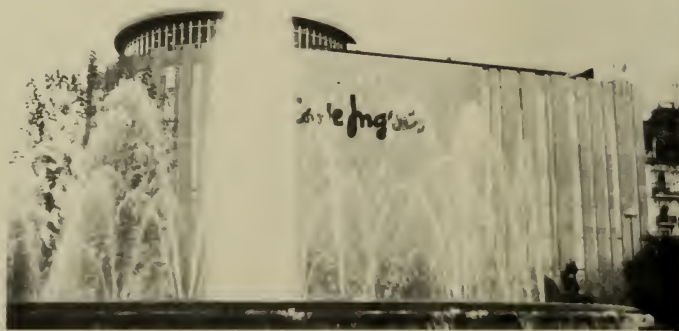
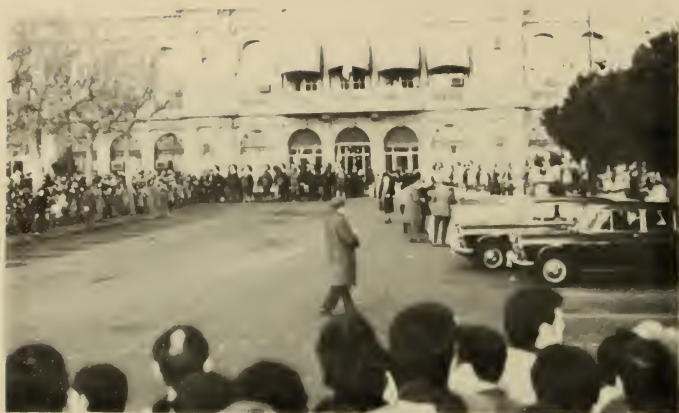




BARCELONA

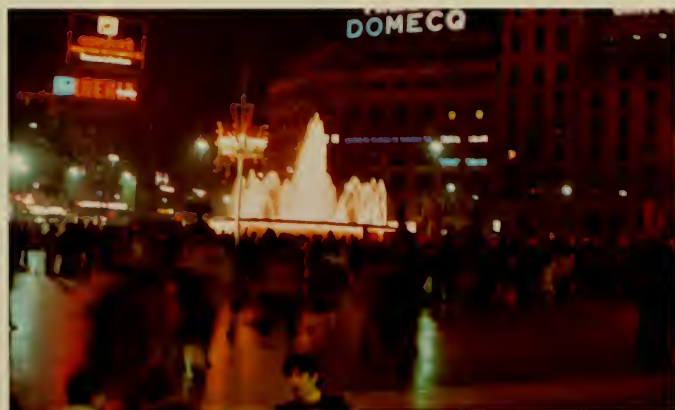












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CARBONERAS





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MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY



VALENCIA







RE-ENLISTMENTS







NAPLES





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FLIGHT DECK



OPERATIONS







THE CREW

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

CDR Somers
LTJG Day
YNC Liedl
GYSGT Wirth
NC1 Coley



PN 1 Gall
EN1 Keith
ABF2 Strickland
PN2 White
YN3 Basilo



PN3 Browning
PN3 Given
LI3 Hanf
PN3 Hutchinson



YN3 Johnson
PC3 Morehead
PN3 Murray



PC3 Smith
YN3 Strole
PCSN Vozzelli
SN Martinez
PNSA Bennett



NAVIGATION DEPARTMENT

LT Fromme
QMC Torbich
QM2 Hauser
QM2 Halaparda
QM3 Presley



QMSA Fortin
SN Synder

LT Kapa



MEDICAL

DEPARTMENT



HMC Lambert
DT3 Clayter
HM2 Minnick
HM3 Neumann
HM3 Blink



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LT Clark
LT Quirk
SK2 Hampton
SK2 Stockton

SK3 Bell
SK3 Klay
SKSA Smith
SA White

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT



MS1 McDaniel
MS1 Romero
MS3 Woodey
MSSN Loneman
SA Neszaros



SA Rosco
MSSA Taylor
SA Thorne
SA Walentukonis
FA Bauer



FA Brockman
SA Carlton
AN Carter
FA Crocker
FN Hart



MMFA Hrynick
FA Jones
FA Kester
FA Keen
SA Lefler



FN Little
MMFA Meadows
AA Midgley
AA Puhl
FA Watheuw



S-3 DIVISION

LTJG Crozier
SH2 Fisher
SH2 Reasor
SHB3 Alston
SH3 Condon



SH3 Green
SN Ferneau
SHSN Green
SHSN Grogan
SN Woody



DK3 Mottram
LTJG Moore
SD1 Pahate

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SD2 Almojera
SD2 Manalac
SD3 Acuin
SD3 Gedalanga
SD3 Maliwanag



SD3 Manoto
SDSN Clapp
SDSN Comer
SDSN Dalomata
SDSN Eirhart



SDSN Toman



OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT

LCDR Luksich

*RMCS Newman
SM1 Ballard
RM1 Bartlett*



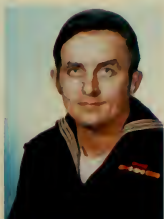
DIVISION



*RM 1 Fischer
RM2 Dean
RM2 Fulton
RM2 Lincoln
RM2 Primarolo*



*RM2 O'Bryan
SM2 Rinear
RM3 Gatewood
RM3 Palmer
SM3 Spurlock*



*SN Conway
SMSA Fondren
RMSN Hirsch
SMSN Kehn
SN Keeler*



RMSN Spann
RMSA Lake
CWO-3 Deniz
ETC Clingenpeel



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ET1 Belanger
ET1 Carpenter
EW1 Huinker
ETN2 Akers
ETN2 Seeskin



ETN3 Aldridge
ETR3 Casey
ETN3 Ford
ETN3 Fanning
ETR3 Proulx



ETR3 Stumph
JO3 Thompson
ETNSN Faulk
ETNSN Howard



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ENS Ruebsamen
OSC Stewart
OS2 Hardin
OS3 Stanley
OSSN Elias



OSSN Gross
OSSN Meehan



DECK
DEPARTMENT

DIVISION
1ST

LT Butterworth
LTJG Stewart
CWO2 Wiggins
ENS Wepplo



BMCS Bell
BM2 Meredith
BM2 Attardo
BM2 Bailey
BM3 Quick



SN Alston
SN Benitez
SN Carson
SN Dillon
SN Hope



SN Murcia
SN Rollins
SN Shaver
SN Simmons
SN Tyner



SN Williams
SA Blair
SA Darrah
SA Dougherty
SA Evans



SA Friedwald
SA Garcia
SA Knorr
SA Lobato
SA Morin



SA Page
SA Whitmoyer

ENS Evjen
BM1 Taylor



DIVISION
 2ND



BM2 Mullins
BM3 Delrie
SN Blake
SN Bruer
BM3 Capps



SN Donnelly
SN Epps
SN Glover
SN Rocha
SN Stevens



SN White
SA Adams
SA Baker
SA Berrafato
SA Bodoh



SA Compton
SA Dunagan
SA Lincoln
SA Luddy
SA Schoenknecht



SA Stache
SA Stone
SR Garrison

ENS Patterson



DIVISION
 3RD



GMG1 Pauling
FTG1 Nault
FTG2 Bogert
GMG2 Vanmeter
GMG3 Ferguson



GMG3 Manlick
FTG3 Papinsick
GMG3 Saucier
SN Williams
SA Guidry



AIR DEPARTMENT

LTJG Sterusky
ABH1 Hoffman
ABF1 Styles
ABH3 Badger
ABH3 Rauch



ABF3 Rushing
ABF3 Smith
ADJ3 Taylor
ABF3 Thiessen
ABH3 Trimbur



AN Baggett
AN Ballard
AN Bartold
AN Bemis
AN Franklin



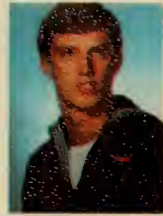
AN Gertler
AN Henry
AN Mansour
AN Montenegro
AN Read



AN Tordai
AN Torres
AN Yaiser
AA Blanchard
AA Buechele



AA Chism
AA Clark
AA Coe
AA Dexter
AA Jent



AA Kelham
AA Sumuel
AA Szarwinski
AA Thomas



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

LCDR Triplett
ENS Roberts
ENS Malarkey
MM1 Matlock



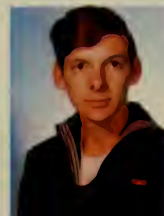
DIVISION
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MR1 Provance
MR1 Rios
EN2 Lemons
EN2 Matousch
EN3 Bettcher



EN3 Brode
EN3 Dempsey
EN3 Jenkins
EN3 McCartney
EN3 Rajchel



EN3 Rose
 EN3 Roskowski
 MRFN Beary
 ENFA Gore
 FN Novitski



FN Scanlon
 BTC Bohannon
 BT1 Lowery
 BT2 Lucas



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BT1 Nicklow
 BT2 Hinkel
 BT3 Gilman
 BT3 Heebner
 BT3 Spurgeon



BT3 Uhl
 FN Coombe
 FN English
 BTFN Faw
 BTFN Fisher



FN Giffin
 FN Higgins
 FN Jeter
 BTFN Martel
 FN Osborne



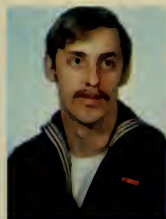
FN Tilley
 FN Valentin
 BTFN Walters
 BTFA Ambler
 FA Bennis



BRFA Custer
 BTFA Evans
 FA Reuter
 BTFA Rudisill
 FA Vanwie



FA Wertz
 FR Cato



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ENS Merrión
 EMC Seglem



IC1 Hopton
 EM1 Thurston
 EM2 Chatmon
 EM2 Foster
 EM3 Childs



EM3 Dickson
 EM3 Heller
 IC3 Hugli
 IC3 Lee
 EM3 Sinclair

EM3 Spell
 EN Castro
 EMFN Davis
 EMFN Elliott
 EMFN Hammond



EMFN Miller
 EMFN Mull
 EMFN Warren
 FA Benton
 ICFA Cooney



EMFA Lipke
 ICFA Smith



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MMC Wiggins
 MM1 Luttrell

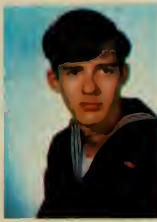


MM2 Goss
 MM2 Mikowicz
 MM3 Duty
 MM3 Edradan
 MM3 Helm



MM3 Kinstler
 MM3 Swanson
 MMFN Bussard
 FN Close
 FN Coiner

MMFN Hickey
 FN Hill
 MMFN Hill
 PN Many
 MMFN Peterson



MMFN Woods
 FA Ambulo
 FA Atchinson
 FA Busse
 FA Hartington



FA Latin
 MMFA Miles
 FA Powell
 FA Rumdquist
 FA Turner



FR Bailey
 CWO-4 Duckworth
 HTCS Atchinson
 HTC Basquez



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HT1 McClure
 HT1 Singleton
 HT1 Underwood
 HT2 Bush
 HT2 Gehman



HT2 Tackett
 YN3 Coffey
 HT3 Davis
 HT3 Haville



HT3 Hipes
 HT3 Nichols
 HT3 Ryner
 HYFN Michaels



HTFN Oliver
 HTFN Prunty
 HTFN Rookard
 HTFN Smith

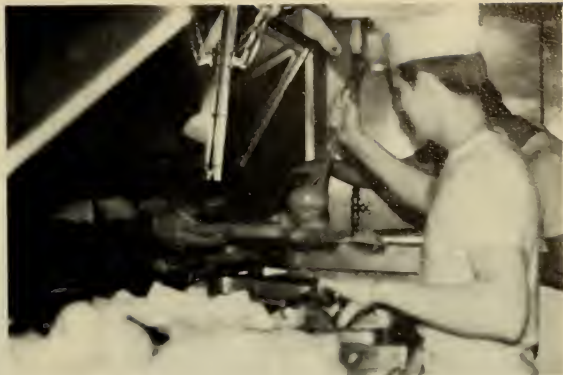


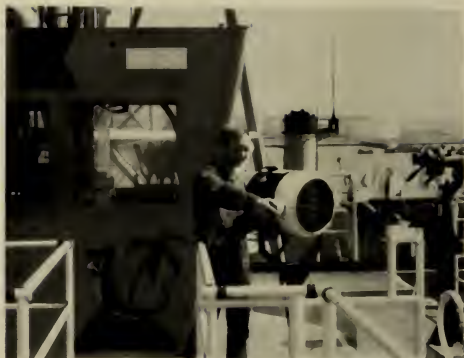
FA Jameson
 HTFA Temme
 HTFA Ward
 FA Willard















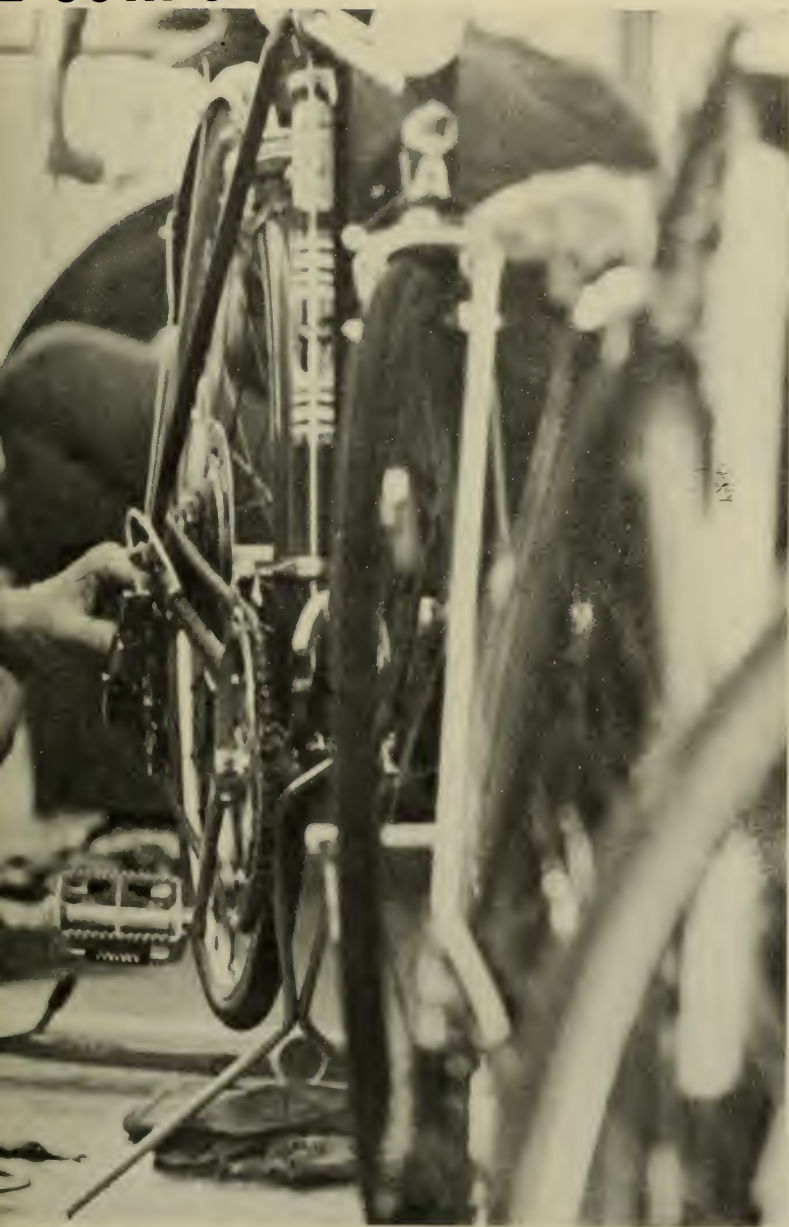


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THE GREAT SURFACE LIFT













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"B" TEAM



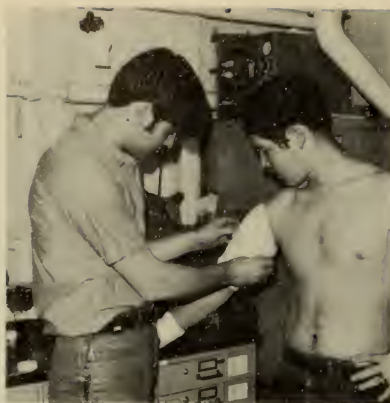














MOREHEAD CITY





HOME COMING











CRUISE BOOK STAFF

Rick Hauser

Bob Johnson

PHOTOGRAPHY

Archie Strole

LAYOUT

Lt. Kapa

IN



MEMORIAM



